

# Giuliano Formisano

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*Last Update: May 19, 2023*

## EDUCATION

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- **University of Oxford** Oxford, UK  
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD); Social Data Science *Sept 2021 - Present*  
**Courses:** Data Analytics, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Networks, Statistics  
**Thesis:** A Computational Analysis of the Italian Political discourse (2014-2019). Integrated thesis focusing on Transfer Learning and Network analysis
  - **Sciences Po, Paris** - Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics Paris, FRA  
Visiting Scholar; Advisors: Dr Joost de Moor & Dr Caterina Froio *March 2023 - April 2023*
- **University of Oxford** Oxford, UK  
Master of Philosophy (MPhil); Political Science *Oct 2019 - June 2021*  
**Courses:** Comparative Government, Political Economy, Machine Learning, Advanced Statistics  
**Thesis:** How does spread polarisation on Twitter? A computational analysis of Matteo Salvini's rhetoric (2013-2019)
- **University of Exeter** Exeter, UK  
Bachelor of Arts (BA); Politics and International Relations *Sept 2016 - June 2019*  
**Courses:** Comparative Politics, Political Psychology, Classical Political Ideas, Research Design  
**Thesis:** The rise of nationalist parties in Italy and France after Maastricht: A comparative analysis of the Lega Nord and Front National communication

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION(S)

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- Friedrichs, J.\*, Stoebr, N.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (2022) Fear-Anger Contests: Governmental and Populist Politics of Emotion. *Online Social Networks and Media*, 32, pp. 1-13.

## ONGOING RESEARCH

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- **Giuliano, F.**, Friedrichs, F., Schaffner, F., Stoebr, N. (Working Paper) A Machine Learning Approach to Analysing Populist and Governmental Rhetoric during the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- Clemente, A.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Working Paper) Are we all in this together? Using transfer learning to study changes in redistribution attitudes during COVID-19. *Presented at EPSA 2022*.
- Saunders, C., **Formisano, G.**, Lavender, L., Palmer, A. (Working Paper) Affective Polarisation: Imagined or Real? A Discourse Analysis of the Debate About Bovine TB and Badger Culling.
- Valentim, V.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Work in Progress) Calling out unacceptable rhetoric on social media.
- Downing, J.\*, Errichiello, E.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Work in Progress) Securitizing Muslim migrants in Western Europe: A computational analysis of elite and non-elite actors' communication on Twitter in European terror attacks.
- Theocharis, Y., Kosmidis, S., **Formisano, G.** (Work in Progress) Wisdom of the Sub-Crowds: Partisan-Based Measurement of Online Polarization.
- Froio, C., Castelli-Gattinara, P., **Formisano, G.**, et al. (Work in Progress) Protest Event Analysis: A Supervised NLP Approach.

\*Authors have equally contributed.

## PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND TALKS

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- 2023. European Political Science Association Conference (Presenter) - *forthcoming*
- 2023. American Political Science Association Conference (Presenter) - *forthcoming*
- 2023. Research in Progress seminar series, Department of Politics, University of Oxford (Discussant)
- 2022. European Political Science Association Conference (Discussant and Presenter)
- 2022. DPhil Work in Progress Workshop, Department of Politics, University of Oxford (Presenter)
- 2022. DPhil Seminar, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford (Presenter)
- 2022. PhD Work in Progress Seminar, European University Institute (Presenter)
- 2022. 17th Annual Doctoral Conference, Central European University (Presenter)
- 2020-2021. Oxford University Italian Society Talks, Interview Series: Enrico Letta (ex-Italian PM), Marco Cappato (ex-MEP), Beatrice Vio (Paralympic Champion), Giuseppe Civati (ex-MP), Andrew Howe (Athlete), Marco Montemagno (Entrepreneur)

## TEACHING

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- University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute** Oxford, UK
  - Graduate Level Courses:
    - Digital Social Research Method: Statistics Core, Teaching Assistant *Oct 2022 - Dec 2022*
    - Digital Era Politics and Government, Teaching Assistant *Jan 2022 - Mar 2022*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- AuthLib Project; CEU Democracy Institute & EU Horizon 2020** Oxford, UK
  - Research Assistant; Advisors: Prof(s) Stephen Whitefield & Spyros Kosmidis *Dec 2022 - Present*  
Constructing a research design to collect a large textual dataset of public opinion, train a machine learning classifier for illiberal behaviour, and analyse data.
- Sciences Po; Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics** Remote, Paris, FRA
  - Research Assistant; Advisor: Dr Caterina Froio *June 2022 - Present*  
Developing a machine learning classifier to classify protest events based on a large dataset of human-coded newspaper articles from European multilingual sources.
- University of Oxford** Oxford, UK
  - Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Spyros Kosmidis *April 2022 - June 2022*  
Applied transfer learning to conduct a sentiment analysis based on roBERTa, and designed and implemented sequence classification based on a pre-labelled corpus of 2,000 political tweets.  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Dr Vicente Valentim *April 2022 - June 2022*  
Built large Twitter posts dataset, applied and validated sentiment analyses for multilingual text.  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Joerg Friedrichs *Sept 2020 - Dec 2020*  
Programmed web-scraping tools to build large online electoral datasets. Coded data with pre-trained machine learning classifiers. Analysed data via time-series analyses.
- University of Exeter** Exeter, UK
  - Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Clare Saunders *May 2018 - Aug 2019*  
Produced literature review on affective polarisation. Coded and analysed interview transcripts about the 2015 UK Badger Culling policy, involving governmental actors, police, stakeholders and citizens.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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- Travel Grant (2022 EPSA Conference, £400 ca.) *Jan 2023*
- ESRC Advanced Quantitative Scholarship (Tuition Fees and Stipend) *Oct 2021 - Oct 2024*
- Nuffield College Research Scholarship (College Fees) *Oct 2021 - Oct 2024*
- Victor Wiseman Prize - Winner for the highest grade overall and for dissertation *June 2019*

## LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

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- **Languages:** Italian (native), English (Bilingual), French and Spanish (Professional Proficiency)
- **Coding:** Python, R, SPSS, PHP, HTML, CSS
- **Key libraries:** Pytorch, Tensorflow, Scikit, Keras, NLTK, NetworkX, Pandas, Numpy
- **Platforms:** Anaconda, VSCode, RStudio, AWS, Git/GitHub, Docker, Google Workspace
- **Publishing:** Git/GitHub, Rmarkdown, Jupyter Notebooks, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, DataVerse

## REFERENCES

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- Prof Spyros Kosmidis, Politics Department, University of Oxford: [spyros.kosmidis@politics.ox.ac.uk](mailto:spyros.kosmidis@politics.ox.ac.uk).
- Prof Ralph Schroeder, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford: [ralph.schroeder@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ralph.schroeder@oii.ox.ac.uk).
- Prof Joerg Friedrichs, International Development, University of Oxford: [joerg.friedrichs@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:joerg.friedrichs@qeh.ox.ac.uk).